

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated October 26, 2007, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, and 10-15 are all the claims pending in the application.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claim 11 contains allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 5 and 7 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 11. Claim 11 has consequently been canceled. In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1, 5 and 7 and their dependent claims should now be in a condition for allowance.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10 and 12-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sharma et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,136,382). As indicated above, independent claims 1, 5 and 7 have been amended to include allowable subject matter. Consequently, the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10 and 12-15 in view of Sharma is now moot and claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10 and 12-15 should be deemed allowable.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

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U.S. Appln. No.: 10/084,217

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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